

Message Text

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12

ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 MC-02 ACDA-05 /051 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/INS: RDLORTON:MMK

APPROVED BY NEA:

PM/SAS - DKEENE

DOD/ISA - COL. LEISER

NEA/INS - DKUX

NEA - PCONSTABLE

----- 029658

R 171903Z OCT 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

CINCPAC

DA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 247219

DA/DAMO AND DAMI

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, NP

SUBJECT: NEPALESE INTEREST IN AIR DEFENSE EQUIPMENT

REF: KATHMANDU 4307

1. WE CONCUR IN YOUR ASSESSMENT THAT WE SHOULD NOT PROVIDE NEPAL WITH SIGNIFICANT AMOUNTS OF MILITARY HARDWARE. OUR INTEREST IN STABILITY IN SOUTH ASIA WOULD NOT BE SERVED BY ENGAGING OURSELVES IN NEPAL IN A WAY WHICH SUGGESTS WE ARE TRYING TO BECOME A MAJOR SOURCE OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT. GOI WOULD QUESTION OUR MOTIVES, AND SUCH ACTION WOULD BE MISLEADING TO THE GON.

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2. EMBASSY SHOULD THEREFORE ENDEAVOR HEAD OFF FURTHER

INQUIRIES ALONG THIS LINE. AS PRACTICAL MATTER - APART
FROM SOUTH ASIA POLICY CONCERNS - THERE IS NO LIKELIHOOD
THAT GRANT MILITARY ASSISTANCE (OTHER THAN A LIMITED
AMOUNT FOR MILITARY TRAINING) WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR NEPAL.

3. IN SHORT, WE DO NOT WISH TO SUPPLY A 36 GUN AA REG-
MENT OR REDEYES TO NEPAL. EMBASSY SHOULD ENSURE THAT RNA
GETS THE MESSAGE AND IS DISCOURAGED FROM SUBMITTING A
FORMAL REQUEST FOR SUCH EQUIPMENT. INGERSOLL

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NNN

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